

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

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R 250616Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 913

INFOR AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJECT: KIM TAE-CHUNG TRIAL CONTINUES

1. KIM TAE-CHUNG TRIAL ON 1971 ELECTION IRREGULARITIES CONTINUED ON JUNE 24 IN MORE EVENTFUL SESSION THAN USUAL. NDP'S NO SUNG-HWAN TESTIFIED IN BEHALF OF KIM, CLAIMING THAT WHILE KIM HAD VISITED SEOUL SLUM AREA IN 1971, IT WAS NOT PART OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND THUS NOT COUNTER TO ROK ELECTION LAWS. VISIT WAS INSTEAD NORMAL INSPECTION TOUR OF UNDERPRIVILEGED AREA.

2. KIM'S PANEL OF JUDGES ISSUED SUMMON TO FORMER DRP SECRETARY GENERAL KIL CHAE-HO AND FORMER NDPP (AND NOW YUCHONGHOE) ASSEMBLYMAN KANG MUN-PONG WHEN THEY FAILED TO APPEAR AT SESSION. BOTH MEN ARE PROSECUTION WITNESSES BUT ARE AT PRESENT VISITING OUTSIDE COUNTRY.

3. JUDGES HAVE SCHEDULED NEXT SESSION OF TRIAL FOR JULY 8. WHILE ROK LAW SPECIFIES THAT CRIMINAL TRIALS SHOULD NOT EXTEND BEYOND FOUR MONTHS IN OVERALL DURATION, THEREIS NO TIME LIMIT FOR TRIALS SUCH AS KIM'S. NOR IS TWO WEEK INTERVAL BETWEEN SESSIONS EXTRAORDINARY.

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ORIGINAL LONG DELAY IN SCHEDULING TRIAL WAS RESULT OF KIM'S SUCCESSFUL CHALLENGE OF FORMER THREE-JUDGE PANEL.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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